Amendment No. 3 to SB0470

Johnson Signature of Sponsor

AMEND Senate Bill No. 470*

House Bill No. 1756

by deleting SECTION 1 of the bill as amended and by substituting instead the following:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 68-34-105, is amended by adding the following as new subsections (c), (d) and (e):

- (c) The commissioner of health is authorized to make grants for family planning services from funds provided or administered by the state for such purpose by the general assembly. In effectuating the provisions of this chapter, the commissioner shall promulgate rules and regulations specifying eligibility standards that must be met to receive the funding and provide reasonable methods by which a grantee who desires to be eligible for funding may comply with these requirements for funding.
- (d) For purposes of any county having a population in excess of five hundred thousand (500,000) according to the 2000 federal census or any subsequent federal census, the commissioner shall, in distributing the funds provided for under this section, issue a single request for grant proposals for each affected county for funding for family planning programs. The commissioner shall send a notification of this request to the affected county health departments and shall place a notification on the department's web site. The commissioner shall allow at least thirty (30) days after issuing the notification before closing the application period. The commissioner and the department shall encourage the county health departments to take every step possible to be able to accept all family planning funds provided by the State for that particular county. Upon receipt of all applications, the commissioner shall first consider and give preference to funding requests from the county health departments.

The commissioner shall not exclude a county health department which seeks full funding of family planning services if, at the time of the application, the county health department does not have the capacity to serve the number of patients as estimated in the request for grant proposal; said county health department must provide documentation, however, demonstrating its ability at the inception of the grant period to serve the number of patients estimated in the request for grant proposal. Acceptance of such funding shall create an obligation under this section to provide family planning services to all eligible clients seeking services throughout the term of the grant.

(e) If funds remain after the awarding of funds to county health departments as provided in subdivision (c) above, the commissioner may make funding available to any other applicants pursuant to the request for grant proposal.